1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Tammy Hussin, Esq. (Bar No. 155290) Lemberg & Associates, LLC 6408 Merlin Drive Carlsbad, CA 92011 Telephone (855) 301-2100 ext. 5514 thussin@lemberglaw.com Lemberg & Associates, LLC 1100 Summer Street	
8	Stamford, CT 06905 Telephone: (203) 653-2250 Facsimile: (203) 653-3424	
10 11	Attorneys for Plaintiff, Jesse Wagner	
12		
13	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT	
14	SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA	
15		
16	Jesse Wagner,	Case No.: <u>'13CV1512W KSC</u>
1718	Plaintiff,	COMPLAINT FOR DAMAGES 1. VIOLATION OF FAIR DEBT
19	vs.	COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT,
20	Premier Credit of North America, LLC;	15 U.S.C. § 1692 <i>ET. SEQ</i> ; 2. VIOLATION OF FAIR DEBT
21	and DOES 1-10, inclusive,	COLLECTION PRATICES ACT,
22	Defendants.	CAL.CIV.CODE § 1788 ET. SEQ.
23		JURY TRIAL DEMANDED
24		
25		
26		
27		
28		
		COMPLAINT FOR DAMAGES

For this Complaint, the Plaintiff, Jesse Wagner, by undersigned counsel, states as follows:

JURISDICTION

- 1. This action arises out of Defendants' repeated violations of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1692, *et seq.* ("FDCPA"), and the invasions of Plaintiff's personal privacy by the Defendants and its agents in their illegal efforts to collect a consumer debt.
 - 2. Supplemental jurisdiction exists pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1367.
- 3. Venue is proper in this District pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b), in that Defendants transact business here and a substantial portion of the acts giving rise to this action occurred here.

PARTIES

- 4. The Plaintiff, Jesse Wagner (hereafter "Plaintiff"), is an adult individual residing in San Diego, California, and is a "consumer" as the term is defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(3).
- 5. The Defendant, Premier Credit of North America, LLC (hereafter "Defendant"), is a company with an address of 2002 Wellesley Boulevard, Indianapolis, Indiana 46219-2417, operating as a collection agency, and is a "debt collector" as the term is defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(6).

- 6. Does 1-10 (the "Collectors") are individual collectors employed by Premier and whose identities are currently unknown to the Plaintiff. One or more of the Collectors may be joined as parties once their identities are disclosed through discovery.
 - 7. Premier at all times acted by and through one or more of the Collectors.

ALLEGATIONS APPLICABLE TO ALL COUNTS

A. The Debt

- 8. A financial obligation (the "Debt") was allegedly incurred to an original creditor (the "Creditor") for a student loan.
- 9. The Debt arose from services provided by the Creditor which were primarily for family, personal or household purposes and which meets the definition of a "debt" under 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(5).
- 10. The Debt was purchased, assigned or transferred to Premier for collection, or Premier was employed by the Creditor to collect the Debt.
- 11. The Defendants attempted to collect the Debt and, as such, engaged in "communications" as defined in 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(2).

B. Premier Engages in Harassment and Abusive Tactics

- 12. Within the last year, Premier contacted Plaintiff in an attempt to collect the Debt.
 - 13. Premier contacted Plaintiff at his place of employment.

- 14. Plaintiff spoke with Premier and advised that he was not the Debtor and was not responsible for the repayment of the Debt.
- 15. Plaintiff further advised Premier that the calls to his workplace were inconvenient and demanded that Premier cease all calls to him.
- 16. Thereafter, despite having been informed of foregoing, Premier continued calling Plaintiff at his place of employment in an attempt to collect the Debt, causing frustration and distress to Plaintiff.
- 17. Plaintiff spoke with Premier on multiple occasions requesting that the calls stop, including speaking to a supervisor at Premier. Plaintiff engaged in a lengthy conversation with Premier, wherein the supervisor assured Plaintiff that no further calls would be placed to him.
 - 18. Despite this, Premier continued to call Plaintiff.

<u>COUNT I</u> <u>VIOLATIONS OF THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT</u> 15 U.S.C. § 1692, et seq.

- 19. The Plaintiff incorporates by reference all of the above paragraphs of this Complaint as though fully stated herein.
- 20. Defendants engaged in behavior the natural consequence of which was to harass, oppress, or abuse the Plaintiff in connection with the collection of a debt, in violation of 15 U.S.C. § 1692d.

- 21. The Defendants caused a phone to ring repeatedly and engaged the Plaintiff in telephone conversations, with the intent to annoy and harass, in violation of 15 U.S.C. § 1692d(5).
- 22. Defendants used an unfair and unconscionable means to collect the debt, in violation of 15 U.S.C. § 1692f.
- 23. The foregoing acts and omissions of the Defendants constitute numerous and multiple violations of the FDCPA, including every one of the above-cited provisions.
- 24. The Plaintiff is entitled to damages as a result of the Defendants' violations.

<u>COUNT II</u> <u>VIOLATION OF THE ROSENTHAL FAIR DEBT COLLECTION</u> <u>PRACTICES ACT, Cal. Civ. Code § 1788 et seq.</u>

- 25. The Plaintiff incorporates by reference all of the above paragraphs of this Complaint as though fully stated herein.
- 26. The Rosenthal Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, California Civil Code section 1788 *et seq.* ("Rosenthal Act") prohibits unfair and deceptive acts and practices in the collection of consumer debts.
- 27. Premier Credit of North America, LLC, in the regular course of business, engages in debt collection and is a "debt collector" as defined by Cal. Civ. Code § 1788.2(c).

- 28. The Defendants caused a telephone to ring repeatedly and engaged the Plaintiff in continuous conversations with an intent to annoy the Plaintiff, in violation of Cal. Civ. Code § 1788.11(d).
- 29. The Defendants failed to comply with the provisions of 15 U.S.C. § 1692, et seq., in violation of Cal. Civ. Code § 1788.13(e).
- 30. The Defendants did not comply with the provisions of Title 15, Section 1692 of the United States Code, in violation of Cal. Civ. Code § 1788.17.
- 31. The Plaintiff is entitled to damages as a result of the Defendants' violations.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, the Plaintiff prays that judgment be entered against the Defendants:

- A. Actual damages pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1692k(a)(1) against the Defendants;
- B. Statutory damages of \$1,000.00 pursuant to 15 U.S.C. §1692k(a)(2)(A) against the Defendants;
- C. Costs of litigation and reasonable attorney's fees pursuant to 15 U.S.C.§ 1692k(a)(3) against the Defendants;
- D. Actual damages pursuant to Cal. Civ. Code § 1788.30(a);

	1
	2
	3
	4
	5
	6
	7
	8
	9
1	0
1	1
1	2
	3
1	4
1	5
1	6
1	7
1	8
1	9
2	0
2	1
2	2
2	3
2	4
2	5
2	6
	7
	8
	_

- E. Statutory damages of \$1,000.00 for knowingly and willfully committing violations pursuant to Cal. Civ. Code § 1788.30(b);
- F. Actual damages from the Defendants for the all damages including emotional distress suffered as a result of the intentional, reckless, and/or negligent FDCPA violations and intentional, reckless, and/or negligent invasions of privacy in an amount to be determined at trial for the Plaintiff;
- G. Punitive damages; and
- H. Such other and further relief as may be just and proper.

TRIAL BY JURY DEMANDED ON ALL COUNTS

7

DATED: July 1, 2013 TAMMY HUSSIN

By: /s/ Tammy Hussin
Tammy Hussin, Esq.
Lemberg & Associates, LLC
Attorney for Plaintiff, Jesse Wagner